IMPACT OF FOREIGN TOURIST ARRIVALS (FTA) IN INDIA ON INDIAN TOURISM INDUSTRY - A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF PRE AND POST COVID-19 PERIOD

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INTRODUCTION

The recent outbreak of a novel coronavirus, named COVId-19, pushed the global economy into a disaster. On 11 February 2020, the disease was declared COVID-19 by the World Health Organization (WHO, 2020). The WHO asserted the outbreak of COVID-19 as a pandemic on 11 March 2020. It had also a profound impact on the world economy, triggering an unprecedented global crisis. Lockdowns, travel restrictions, and social distancing measures led to widespread business closures and disruptions in supply chains, causing a sharp contraction in economic activity. Unemployment surged as businesses cut back or halted operations, leaving millions without income. Governments worldwide implemented massive fiscal and monetary interventions to cushion the blow, including stimulus packages, unemployment benefits, and interest rate cuts. The pandemic accelerated trends such as remote work and digitalization, while international trade and travel were severely curtailed. As countries sought to balance public health with economic stability, the full extent of the pandemic's long-term economic repercussions continued to unfold. The impact of COVID-19 is devastating on the various sectors of the economy like manufacturing, service, Agro, Tourism, etc.

Impact of Covid-19 on World Tourism Industry:

The COVID-19 pandemic unleashed an unprecedented and devastating blow to the global tourism industry, reshaping its landscape in profound ways. As the virus spread, countries swiftly imposed travel restrictions, border closures, and lockdowns, effectively paralyzing international and domestic travel. Airlines grounded fleets, hotels emptied, and tourist destinations turned eerily quiet. The economic fallout was staggering, with the industry experiencing colossal revenue losses, estimated at hundreds of billions of dollars. The tourism sector, known for its labor-intensive nature, faced an avalanche of job losses as hotels, restaurants, and entertainment venues shuttered. Millions of workers, from tour guides to hospitality staff, found themselves unemployed or on reduced hours, exposing the industry's vulnerability to external shocks. Amid the crisis, businesses strived to adapt. Virtual tourism experiences emerged, allowing travelers to explore destinations from the safety of their homes. The pandemic spurred a shift in travel preferences. Travelers gravitated towards outdoor and nature-based experiences, avoiding crowded urban centers. The pandemic forced stakeholders to reevaluate the industry's sustainability, resilience, and overreliance on international tourism. In essence, the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the tourism industry, highlighting its vulnerabilities, prompting adaptation, and underscoring the importance of collaboration among governments, businesses, and travelers to navigate a complex and uncertain future.

Indian Travel and Tourism Industry:

The travel industry is one of the most important sectors of the Indian economy. Agra. Hampi., Goa, Kashmir, Leh Ladakh, Shimla, Kerala, Jodhpur, Dharamshala, Varanasi, and Rishikesh are some major tourist destinations in India. According to WTTC – It has generated ₹13.2 lakh crore, which is 5.8% of India's GDP. Before the pandemic, the travel and tourism industry were a significant contributor to India's GDP. In 2019, the direct contribution of travel and tourism to India's GDP was approximately 3.1%, and the total contribution (including indirect and induced impacts) was around 9.2%.

The industry was a major source of employment. In 2019, the travel and tourism sector supported around 42.7 million jobs, which accounted for around 8.1% of the country's total employment. By 2030, 137 mn jobs in the Tourism sector are expected to arise. India saw a growing number of foreign tourist arrivals before the pandemic. In 2019, the country received approximately 10.9 million foreign tourists, a slight increase from the previous year. International tourist arrivals are expected to reach 30.5 mn by 2028. The country may earn 56 bn USD in Foreign Exchange Earnings. As far as domestic tourism is concerned it has also played a crucial role. In 2019, there were around 2.5 billion domestic tourist visits, indicating the strong demand for travel within the country.

The sector is predicted to grow at an annual rate of 7.8% to ₹33.8 lakh crore (US$420 billion) by 2031 (7.2% of GDP). This industry generated significant revenue. In 2019, the total revenue from the industry was approximately USD 194.3 billion. The Indian government and private sector were actively investing in the tourism infrastructure. Various initiatives were launched to promote tourism, including the "Incredible India" campaign.

Impact of Covid-19 on Indian Travel and Tourism Industry:

As the covid-19 pandemic hit the world, the Indian travel and tourism industry faced significant revenue losses due to the pandemic. The sector's revenue was estimated to have contracted by around 65% in 2020 compared to the previous year. The industry witnessed a substantial number of job losses. It was estimated that around 5.5 crore (55 million) jobs were at risk in the travel and tourism sector due to the pandemic-induced disruptions. The number of foreign tourist arrivals(FTA) in India plummeted due to travel restrictions and health concerns. In 2020, there were around 2.63 million foreign tourist arrivals, reflecting a significant decline compared to previous years. Domestic tourism, which is a significant driver for the Indian travel industry, also suffered. Travel restrictions and fear of infection led to a decline in domestic travel activities. Hotel occupancy rates dropped sharply as travelers cancelled or postponed their plans. Many hotels faced occupancy rates well below their typical averages. India's aviation sector was severely impacted, with a substantial decrease in air passenger traffic. The number of domestic air passengers in India dropped significantly compared to previous years. The financial impact was substantial. It was estimated that the Indian travel and tourism industry incurred losses amounting to billions of dollars due to the pandemic. The economy of the country relinquished foreign currency in billions due to this pandemic.

Statement of Problem:

In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the related travel restrictions, India experienced a significant decline in foreign tourist arrivals. The numbers were substantially lower compared to previous years. For instance, in the year 2019, India received around 10.9 million foreign tourist arrivals. In the subsequent year i.e in 2020 when pandemic occurred the country saw a drastic decline in foreign tourist arrivals due to the pandemic. The numbers were reported to be around 3.93 million, indicating a sharp decrease compared to the previous year. Therefore, the researcher has tried to probe the impact of FTA on Indian Tourism industry during pre and post covid period. Henceforth, the statement of problem is defined as **'Impact of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTA) in India on Indian Tourism Industry - A Comparative study of Pre and Post COVID-19 Period.'**

Objectives of the study: The proposed research has defined following objectives

1. To study seasonality in foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19.
2. To study the forging exchange (dollar) earned from foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19.
3. To study the average duration of the stay of foreign tourists in India from the world before and after Covid-19
4. To study foreign tourists coming for Leisure holidays and Recreation purposes in India from the world before and after Covid-19.
5. To study foreign tourists coming for business in India from the world before and after Covid-19.

Hypothesis of the study:

The research study is based on following hypothesis.

1. **Hypothesis-1(H₁):** There is a significant difference between the seasonality of foreign tourist arrivals in India before and after Covid-19
2. **Hypothesis-2 (H₁):** There is a significant difference between forging exchange (dollar) earned from foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19
3. **Hypothesis-3(H₁):** There is a significant difference between Average duration of stay of foreign tourists in India form the world before and after Covid-19
4. **Hypothesis-4 (H₁):** There is a significant difference between foreign

tourist arrivals in India for Leisure holidays and Recreation before and after Covid-19

5. **Hypothesis-5 (H₁):** There is a significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals for business before and after Covid-19.

Scope of the study:
For this study, the researcher has chosen five dependent variables as follows.
1. Seasonality in foreign tourist arrivals.
2. Foreign Exchange (Dollar) earned (FEE) from foreign tourist arrival
3. Average duration of stay of foreign tourists.
4. Foreign tourists coming for leisure holidays and recreation
5. Foreign tourists coming for Business.

For the research, four years have been considered as the research period. i.e., 2018 to 2021. i.e Pre Covid-19 Period - 2018 and 2019 and Post Covid-19 Period- 2020 and 2021

Limitations of the study:
The study has following limitations:
1. The researcher has chosen only five aspects of the tourism industry related to foreign tourists. Therefore, it will depict the impact of covid-19 with these aspects only. But the tourism industry has other elements that determine its growth and development. Therefore, these aspects are not covered in this study.
2. The researcher has chosen two years before covid-19 and two years after covid-19. Of course, the assessment impact of any aspect of the industry during this period may be a little short. But research has bound to choose this time limitation for data availability.
3. The impact of covid-19 on any industry will be more precise and visible as time passes. Because it is a long-term impact. The results drawn through the short-period assessment may be inappropriate in the long run.

Research Design
The research design used is Ex Post Facto. An ex post facto research design is a method in which groups with existing qualities are compared on some dependent variable—also known as "after-the-fact" research. In this research study, the researcher has defined Independent variable as 'Pandemic situation (COVID-19)' and five various dependent variables as mentioned above. The researcher intended to study the situation of the pandemic (after-the -facto) on the foreign tourist arrivals.

Data Collection:
In this research study, Secondary data is used. The secondary data sources are Bureau of Immigration, India Four-year Annual Report, India Tourism Statistics (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022), Government Of India Ministry Of Tourism, Market Research Division etc.

Data analysis and interpretation:
- **Descriptive statistics:** In this research study, the 2018 & 2019 clubs were pre-pandemic, and the 2020 & 2021 clubs were post-pandemic. The researcher computes the difference (post minus pre) and ranked the data as most negative situation rank 1st.
- **Inferential statistics:** In this study, the researcher is interested in measuring the difference between post and pre-situation. Hence researcher used paired t-test. However, the paired t-test is a parametric test; therefore, we can run a parametric test if the data follow normality (Field, 2013).
- **Normality of distribution:** Near about all statistical test depends on the assumption about normality, including t-test, correlation, regression, and analysis of variance (Altman & Bland, 1995). The values for asymmetry and kurtosis between -2 and +2 are considered acceptable to prove normal univariate distribution (George & Mallery, 2010). Hair et al. (2010) and Bryne (2010) argued that data is considered normal if skewness is between -2 to +2 and kurtosis is between -7 to +7.
- **Paired t-test:** The paired t-test gives a hypothesis examination of the difference between population means for a set of random samples whose variations are almost normally distributed. Subjects are often tested in a before-after situation (Tabachnick et al., 2012)
    All the above conditions were fulfilled in this study; hence researcher ran paired t–test for hypothesis testing.

Operational Definitions :
a. Seasonality: Seasonality refers to the temporal fluctuations of tourism on a daily, weekly, monthly, or annual basis. Seasonality can be described as some visitor pattern that reoccurs every year. The most prominent characteristic of tourism - Cooper et al. (2005)
b. Foreign Exchanged Earned (FEE) – Earnings received from foreign tourists.

1. Seasonality in Foreign Tourist Arrivals
Objective: To study seasonality in foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19.

Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant difference between the seasonality of foreign tourist arrivals in India before and after Covid-19

Descriptive statistics : Seasonality in Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India							
Months/Years	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**Pre Covid**	**Post Covid**	**Difference**	**Rank**
January	1045027	1111040	NA	94662	1078033.5	94662	-983371.5	2
February	1049259	1090516	NA	110312	1069887.5	110312	-959575.5	3
March	1021539	978236	328304	133768	999887.5	231036	-768851.5	7
April	745033	774651	2820	78718	759842	40769	-719073	9
May	606513	615136	3764	19765	610824.5	11764.5	-599060	12
June	683935	726446	8590	36070	705190.5	22330	-682860.5	10
July	806493	818125	12655	72501	812309	42578	-769731	6
August	785993	800837	19761	92728	793415	56244.5	-737170.5	8
September	719894	751513	28167	115661	735703.5	71914	-663789.5	11
October	890223	945017	41494	191415	917620	116454.5	-801165.5	5
November	1012569	1092440	70977	263867	1052504.5	167422	-885082.5	4
December	1191498	1226398	90544	317647	1208948	204095.5	-1004853	1
(Unit: number of tourists)								
(Source: Compiled data from the Bureau of Immigration and Indian tourism Statistics from 2019 to 2022)								

Inferential statistics: Seasonality in Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India						
	Skew	**Kurt**	**t-value**	**df**	**sig**	**Result**
Paired t-test	0.827	-0.506	20.851	11	0.001	H₀ Rejected
						(Source: Test Result)

Table No. 1

The figures in table no. 1 shows that the highly negatively impacted month is December, which shows less than 1004853 fewer tourists came after Covid-19 compared to before the era of Covid-19. To evaluate differences, run paired t-tests. t-value 20.851 at a significant level of 0.05. Hence rejected the null hypothesis. ***There is a significant difference between the seasonality of foreign tourist arrivals in India before and after Covid-19.*** This difference is a negative impact on the Indian tourism industry. After the Covid-19 drastic downfall in foreign tourist arrival in India destroyed the seasonality pattern of foreign tourist arrivals.

2. Forging Exchange (Dollar) earned From Foreign Tourist Arrivals:
Objective: To study the forging exchange (dollar) earned from foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19.

Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant difference between forging exchange (dollar) earned from foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19

Descriptive statistics: Foreign Exchange Earnings from Tourism in India							
Months/Years	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**Pre Covid**	**Post Covid**	**Difference**	**Rank**
January	2.791	2.575	NA	0.645	2.683	0.645	-2.038	4
February	2.761	2.521	NA	0.752	2.641	0.752	-1.889	8
March	2.648	2.331	0.784	0.911	2.4895	0.8475	-1.642	11
April	2.379	2.446	0.009	0.934	2.4125	0.4715	-1.941	7
May	1.889	1.983	0.012	0.235	1.936	0.1235	-1.8125	9
June	2.125	2.316	0.027	0.428	2.2205	0.2275	-1.993	5
July	2.468	2.646	0.041	0.554	2.557	0.2975	-2.2595	2
August	2.371	2.504	0.064	0.709	2.4375	0.3865	-2.051	3
September	2.101	2.359	0.093	0.884	2.23	0.4885	-1.7415	10
October	1.998	1.498	0.113	0.681	1.748	0.397	-1.351	12
November	2.302	2.777	0.191	0.937	2.5395	0.564	-1.9755	6
December	2.755	3.179	0.241	1.1128	2.967	0.6769	-2.2901	1
(Unit: US $ billion)								
(Source: Compiled data from the Bureau of Immigration and Indian tourism Statistics from 2019 to 2022)								

Inferential statistics: Foreign Exchange Earnings from Tourism in India						
	Skewness	**Kurtosis**	**t-value**	**df**	**sig**	**Result**
Paired t-test	0.669	-0.661	25.627	11	0.001	H₀ Rejected
						(Source: Test Result)

Table No. 2

The table no.2 indicates that the highly negatively impacted month is December, which shows the highest difference of 2.2901 billion dollars deprecated in Foreign Exchange collection. To evaluate differences, run paired t-tests. t-value 25.627 at a significant level of 0.05. Hence rejected the null hypothesis. ***There is a significant difference between Foreign exchange (dollar) earned from foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid-19.*** This difference is a negative impact on the Indian tourism industry After the drastic Covid-19 rise in the foreign exchange earnings from tourism in India.

3. Average Duration of the Stay of Foreign Tourists:
Objective: To study the average duration of the stay of foreign tourists in India from the world before and afteCovid-19.

Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant difference between the average duration of the stay of foreign tourists in India from the world before and after Covid-19.

Descriptive statistics : Average Duration of Stay of Foreign Tourists in India

County Regions \ Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	Pre Covid	Post Covid	Difference	Rank
North America	31.2	24	35	35	27.6	35	7.4	3
Central and South America	19.4	33	26.2	49	26.2	37.6	11.4	7
Western Europe	20.3	16	24.4	31	18.15	27.7	9.55	4
Eastern Europe	19	15	17.9	25	17	21.45	4.45	2
Africa	27.3	21.6	28.9	41	24.45	34.95	10.5	5
West Asia	23.4	1	20.8	29	12.2	24.9	12.7	8
South Asia	21	14	18.7	25	17.5	21.85	4.35	1
South East Asia	16.3	12	14.3	36	14.15	25.15	11	6
East Asia	21.4	17	28.6	63	19.2	45.8	26.6	10
Australasia	22.7	24	30	49	23.35	39.5	16.15	9

(Unit: number of days)

(Source: Compiled data from the Bureau of Immigration and Indian tourism Statistics from 2019 to 2022)

Inferential statistics :Average Duration of Stay of Foreign Tourists in India

	Skew	Kurt	t-value	df	sig	Result
Paired t-test	1.481	3.111	-5.6	9	0.001	H₀ Rejected

(Source: Test Result)

Table No. 3

Here, the highly negatively impacted country region is south Asia, which shows only 4.35 days enhanced in the duration of stay tourists from this region after Covid-19. To detect differences, run paired t-tests. t-value -5.6 at a significant level of 0.05. Hence rejected the null hypothesis. *There is a significant difference between the average duration of the stay of foreign tourists in India from the world before and after Covid-19.* This difference is a positive impact on the Indian tourism industry. After the drastic Covid-19 rise in the duration of stay in India, foreign tourists have.

4. Foreign Tourists Coming For Leisure Holidays And Recreation:
Objective: To study foreign tourists coming for Leisure holidays and Recreation purposes in India from the world before and after Covid-19.

Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals in India for Leisure holidays and Recreation before and after Covid-19

Descriptive statistics : Foreign Tourists coming for Leisure Holiday and Recreation

County Regions \ Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	Pre Covid	Post Covid	Difference	Rank
North America	53.8	40.9	44.3	6.7	47.35	25.5	-21.85	7
Central and South America	73.3	64.31	72.6	11.1	68.805	41.85	-26.955	2
Western Europe	57.4	45.68	51.4	4.4	51.54	27.9	-23.64	6
Eastern Europe	80.4	71.53	84.1	16.7	75.965	50.4	-25.565	3
Africa	45.21	31.16	35.2	2.1	38.185	18.65	-19.535	8
West Asia	58.6	50.44	52.3	9.3	54.52	30.8	-23.72	5
South Asia	74.5	68.25	70.8	4.4	71.375	37.6	-33.775	1
South East Asia	68.9	58.29	82.1	8	63.595	45.05	-18.545	9
East Asia	44.7	39.35	47.8	1.6	42.025	24.7	-17.325	10
Australasia	62.4	37.28	42.5	8.3	49.84	25.4	-24.44	4

(Unit: number of tourists in perctnage)

(Source: Compiled data from the Bureau of Immigration and Indian tourism Statistics from 2019 to 2022)

Inferential statistics: Foreign Tourists coming forLeisure Holiday and Recreation

	Skew	Kurt	t-value	df	sig	Result
Paired t-test	-0.89	1.413	15.638	9	0.001	H₀ Rejected

(Source: Test Result)

Table No. 4

Table No.4 shows that, the highly negatively impacted country region is south Asia, which shows 33.77 % fewer tourists came from this region after Covid-19. To detect differences, run paired t-tests. t-value 15.638 at a significant level of 0.05. Hence rejected the null hypothesis. *There is a significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals in India for Leisure holidays and Recreation before and after Covid-19.* After the Covid-19 drastic downfall in foreign tourist arrival in India.

5. Foreign Tourists coming for Business:
Objective: To study foreign tourists coming for business in India from the world before and after Covid-19.

Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals for business before and after Covid-19.

Descriptive statistics: Foreign Tourists coming for Business

County Regions \ Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	Pre Covid	Post Covid	Difference	Rank
North America	15.5	10.03	8.2	3	12.765	5.6	-7.165	1
Central and South America	18.7	20.24	17.8	46.5	19.47	32.15	12.68	8
Western Europe	20.6	17.25	14.1	13.1	18.925	13.6	-5.325	3
Eastern Europe	11	12.42	9.7	45.8	11.71	27.75	16.04	9
Africa	21.9	18.67	20.9	13.7	20.285	17.3	-2.985	4
West Asia	11	9.89	11.7	14	10.445	12.85	2.405	6
South Asia	7.5	5.83	7.1	14	6.665	10.55	3.885	7
South East Asia	13.9	10.67	10.9	16.6	12.285	13.75	1.465	5
East Asia	50.5	49.48	47.1	88.1	49.99	67.6	17.61	10
Australasia	13.6	7.97	5.5	3.1	10.785	4.3	-6.485	2

(Unit: number of tourists in percentage)

(Source: Compiled data from the Bureau of Immigration and Indian tourism Statistics from 2019 to 2022)

Inferential statistics: Foreign Tourists coming for Business

	Skew	Kurt	t-value	df	sig	Result
Paired t-test	0.526	-1.268	-1.092	9	0.303	H₀ Fail to Reject

(Source: Test Result)

Table No. 5

Table no.5 indicates that, the highly negatively impacted country region is North America, which shows 7.165 % fewer tourists came from this region after Covid-19. To detect differences, run paired t-tests. t-value -1.092 at a significant level of

0.303. Hence fail to reject the null hypothesis. *There is no significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals in India for business before and after Covid-19.* This difference is a neutral impact on the Indian tourism industry because change is insignificant. Surprisingly, after Covid-19, there has been no change in foreign tourist arrival for business in India.

Summary Of the Research Study:

Sr.No	Outcome of the study	Result	Impact
1	There is a significant difference between the seasonality of foreign tourist arrivals in India before and after Covid -19.	Reduce arrivals	Negative
2	There is a significant difference between Foreign exchange (dollar) earned from foreign tourist arrivals in India from the world before and after Covid -19.	Reduce earning	Negative
3	There is a significant difference between the average duration of the stay of foreign tourists in India from the world before and after Covid -19.	Increase duration of the stay	Positive
4	There is a significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals in India for Leisure holidays and Recreation before and after Covid -19.	Reduce	Negative
5	There is no significant difference between foreign tourist arrivals in India for business before and after Covid -19.	Insignificant	Neutral

Findings of the study

1. In the month of December the number of tourists has declined vastly i.e approximately 10 lahks followed by January and February. It shows that in the month of Dec. only 16% of tourists came to India in post covid period as compared to pre covid-19 period.
2. In the month of May declined number is the lowest i.e., 599060 tourists, but as compared to pre covid 19 period, only 1.92% of tourists came to India during May.
3. Downfall in FEE occurred mostly in December, July, and August, respectively. The average decline in FEE is 2.290 US Bn.$. In the month of December, during post covid period. It shows only 22% FEE generated during post covid period.
4. The lowest impact on FEE was seen in the month of October. But the average loss across the year shows that 78% of revenue was lost during post covid period.
5. Average duration of stay of tourists from African countries is higher than in all other regions. The stay of tourists from west Asian countries is lower.
6. It is noticed that the average stay of all tourists during post covid period has increased. It varies from 4 days to 26 days.
7. Out of tourists coming from African countries, 75.96% of tourists were coming for leisure holidays and recreation, followed by from tourists from central and south America and South East Asia. As a compared tourists from African countries were less preferred to come for leisure holidays and recreation.
8. The south Asian tourists declined by more than 33%, whereas tourists from East Asia declined by merely 17%.
9. The percentage of foreign tourists coming for business in India shows that despite covid pandemic, the percentage of tourists coming from East Asia for business has risen by 17.61%, whereas the tourist coming for the same reason from North America has fallen by 7%.
10. The tourist percentage from Central and South America, Eastern Europe, West and South Asia, South East Asia, and East Asia is increased. Other four regions the tourist percentage has been declined.

CONCLUSION

1. The seasonality in foreign tourist visits before and after COVID-19 suggests that foreign tourist arrivals are often higher in December and January each year, presumably due to pleasant weather and holiday availability. On the other hand, May is consistently the month with the fewest international visitors, presumably due to the terrible weather across India. After Covid-19, during September (monsoon season), foreign tourist arrivals are lower because of the higher probability of spreading epidemic diseases.
2. It also observed that India lost its foreign tourist by 84%. It is losing tourists and also all allied business value chains.
3. The FEE generated through tourism shows that during pre covid period, it was 25.892 US bn$; during post covid era, it went down to 5.197 US bn.$. It is observed that the country has lost almost 80% of its FEE due to Covid-19. Therefore, based on testing results and these figures, it is clear that Covid has affected drastically on FEE.
4. The average duration of the stay of foreign tourists is positively affected by Covid-19. The average number of days increased because of quarantine e or Isolation policy, quarantine period, and Entry-Exit protocols, It does not help the tourism sector in aggregate, but only the Hotel industry has benefited more from this increased stay.
5. The tourist coming from Eastern Europe, Central and South America, South Asia, and South East Asia are the majority for leisure holidays and Recreation. After covid, more than 33% of tourists from south Asian countries were reduced. The leisure holidays and

recreation sector has lost around 30% of customers.

6.　The decrease in FTA for leisure holidays and recreation indicates it has also hampered all allied sectors like hotels, restaurants, Cab service, etc. The testing results also authenticate it.

7.　This study has shown one different aspect. Though all other aspects of the tourism industry have been hampered drastically, the tourist coming for business has not been affected significantly. This hypothesis has been accepted. We can say that whatever situation there was, the FTA for business was as it is. Foreign nationals have preferred to visit India though the situation is adverse. Their priority was business first. Tourists from Central and South America, Eastern Europe, Africa, and South East Asia have arrived largely during covid post period. This may be because of outbreak of Covid in Europe, for medical purposes on a business visa.

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